

# ANIMALIA LEARNING CENTER

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## homeschoolers & unschoolers

Where learning is fun, and school is your happy place

- self-directed learning at your own pace
- natural surroundings, non-competitive, no stress
- online curricula Gr1-12 Caps Cambridge IEB GED Online
- learn from nature, it is eternal and always
- learn from the internet, it is modern and now
- learn from each other, we are real and relevant



# Education philosophy and practice:

**Learning is child centered.** The facilities, curriculum and teaching methods are developmentally appropriate and responsive to individual children's strengths, interests, and learning styles. Experiences in self-direction, making choices, and taking risks help children develop into confident, independent, life-long learners.

**Learning is active.** Children learn best by doing things themselves. They are given opportunities to explore and discover the world, to use a variety of materials, and to participate in activities and experiences that help them construct knowledge for themselves. Challenges, questions, encouragement, and time for reflection help them integrate and apply their understanding. They emerge as critical thinkers and problem solvers.

**Learning engages the whole child.** Children have emotional, social, moral, physical, intellectual, and creative needs, and all of these are addressed in the learning environment. Learning that embraces the full scope of children's lives is rich and meaningful. Children who are encouraged to experience all that the world has to offer develop habits of openness, curiosity, and joy in learning and doing.

**Learning has purpose.** Children need to master the skills of analysis and communication, as well as those of living and working with others. Teaching them to respect all living things and connecting their lives to the larger context of community helps them become sensitive and informed citizens. They develop perspective and judgment, and are empowered to take action.

# Learning in Action:

**Learning is child centered.** Animalia Learning Center has state of the art internet connection for access to global trends, information and online resources. Each child selects their own curriculum, subject choice, level and pace. They evolve into self-motivated learners. Learners cooperate in making the rules for the center, democratically decide on consequences when rules are not adhered to, and adjust these from time to time according to relevance and experiential feedback.

**Learning is active.** Learners actively shape their physical environment. They construct and evolve their facilities such as playground equipment, animal enclosures and sports grounds. Jungle gyms, climbing walls, natural swimming pools and tree houses become learning hubs for specific learning areas, from sustainable architectural and appropriate engineering to science labs, maker spaces where technology and sustainable design meet as online and experts (parents, community members) are invited to demonstrate and workshop applicable skills when and as required by the learners.

**Learning engages the whole child.** One on one life coaching as well as informal group work in game situations brings the physical, social, psychological as well as spiritual needs of the learners into play. The mixed ages ranging from 4 – 19 years set up a micro community reflecting the real world. Learners become the learning material as they share themselves, their passions, unique world views and beliefs and interests with each other.

**Learning has purpose.** Besides learning from each other, playing together and thrashing out differences, learners engage in socially responsible outreach projects like animal husbandry, welfare and environmentally responsible programmes such as animal shelters, community welfare and the international Water Explorers. The latter offers networking across the globe as well as entrepreneurial skills and real life marketplace value in the now which develop them into self-sustainable, self-reliant humans in the real world.



# Daily Learning Programme :

	Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays	Fri & Sat & Sun
8.30-8.45	Warm-up: Theme of the week - Circle & Brain Gym, balls skills	Warm-up: Circle, yoga sun salute, coordination skills	Warm-up: Isometric exercises, game challenge	Warm-up: Circle, Brain Gym, movement, game challenge	Groups or other. Independent and Facilitated. Recreational, cultural, sport
8.45-10.30	Online curricula: Caps, IEB, Cambridge, GED, coding / programming, interactive learning	Online curricula: Caps, IEB, Cambridge, GED, coding / programming, interactive learning	Online curricula: Caps, IEB, Cambridge, GED, coding / programming, interactive learning	Online curricula: Caps, IEB, Cambridge, GED, coding / programming, interactive learning	Equestrian, arts and crafts makerspaces museums Workplace shadowing, product development and markets
10.30-11.00	Break space & recharge	Break space & recharge	Break space & recharge	Break space & recharge	Animal Farmyard
11.00-12.00	Online curricula continue OR Maker Spaces eg. Home engineering/baking, how it's made, science lab, aquaponics, environmental, board games, music, dance, art	Online curricula continue OR Maker Spaces eg. Home engineering/baking, how is it made, science lab, aquaponics, environmental, music, dance, art	Online curricula continue OR Maker Spaces eg. Home engineering/baking, how is it made, science lab, aquaponics, environmental	Experts and guest speakers demo or present courses eg Sign lang, cross-stitch, natural horsemanship, sustainable building, horticulture, gaming & coding, desktop music programming, art, dance etc	Sailing, hiking, climbing, sky diving, scuba diving, snorkelling, surfing, scate boarding, parkor, cycling, running
12.00-12.45	Water Explorers / Animal Farmyard / maker Spaces continue	Entreprenuerial activities eg market day related product development	Water Explorers / Animal Farmyard / maker Spaces continue	Experts and guest speakers demo or present courses eg Sign language, cross-stitch, natural horsemanship, sustainable building, horticulture	Sailing, hiking, climbing, sky diving, scuba diving, snorkelling, surfing, scateboarding, parkor, cycling, running, cooking
12.45-13.00	Clean up & home time for some	Clean up & home time fopr some	Clean up & home time for some	Clean up & home time for some	Sports and family activities
14.00-17.00	Horse Riding lessons, Aquaponics, nature conservation, sports, Sustainable architecture & land management	Extra lessons: Afrikaans FAL, horse riding, animal husbandry, nature conservation, sports & land management	Aquaponics, sustainable architecture, food gardening, animal husbandry, nature conservation, sports & land management	Aquaponics, sustainable architecture, food gardening, animal husbandry, nature conservation, sports & land management	Social with other homeschoolers in kzn, Dog Walking, Environmental clean ups, conservation etc. Online programming and gaming,